

**REPORT  
THE TWENTY FIFTH MEETING OF  
THE ASEAN CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES  
(25<sup>th</sup> ACEDAC) BOARD**

**23 – 24 July 2018, Langkawi, Malaysia**

The Meeting noted the report of the 25<sup>th</sup> ACEDAC Meeting was held on 23-24 July 2018 in Langkawi, Malaysia. The Meeting was attended by representatives from governments, agricultural cooperatives, and farmers' organization of Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam and the ASEAN Secretariat. Representatives from the ASEAN Farmers' Organizations Support Programme (AFOSP) – represented by ASEAN Foundation and Asian Farmers' Association, the Project Coordinator of the Strengthening Capacity Building in Agriculture Sector in ASEAN Countries Project (CB Project) – Phase 3 and the ACEDAC Secretariat were also present.

The report highlighted the progress of cooperation projects and activities which include amongst other a) strengthen the role of Agricultural Cooperatives in food marketing chain system, b) enhance the role of women in the Agricultural Cooperatives in ASEAN; c) Exchange Visit of Cooperatives Personnel and Leaders; d) Progress Report of the Activities of Strategic Alliances Projects by Each Lead Country; and the 7th ASEAN Cooperatives Business Forum (ACBF).

The Meeting noted the progress report on Strengthening Capacity Building in Agriculture Sector in ASEAN Countries project (CB Project) – Phase 3. AMS also explored opportunity to seek funding from the Project for training for other topics and to also prioritize farmer member of agricultural cooperatives and farmer organizations to participate in the training.

The Meeting noted that the Philippines suggested to explore the possibility of developing a joint project/program with Thailand and other AMS to enhance the role of women in agricultural cooperatives.

The Meeting noted the Exchange Visit of Cooperatives Personnel and Leaders that was held on 9 – 13 October 2017 in Johor, Malaysia. The three-day exchange visit was attended by thirteen (13) participants from Malaysia, the Philippines, Viet Nam, and ASEAN Foundation. The exchange visit consists of visit to various locations in Malaysia in which, among other, National Farmer Organization, State Farmer Organizations offices, Area Farmer Organization and FOA headquarter in Kuala Lumpur.

The Meeting noted the update from Thailand on the development of the ACEDAC website (<http://www.acedac.org>). Thailand encouraged other ACEDAC Members to participate in updating information and to link their website with ACEDAC website by sending the URL to Thailand. Thailand informed the Meeting that AMS could send the request to Thailand should they need a training to develop their ACEDAC website using Joomla Template.

The Meeting was informed that the 7th ACBF was held on 15 – 18 January 2018 in Manila, Philippines with a theme of “Coop to Coop Partnership to Advance Prosperity for All”. The Forum was attended by six (6) AMS, ambassadors, development partners, agricultural cooperatives leaders and civil society and had produced the 7th ACBF Declaration including the workshop output which can serve as a reference for the next ACBF. 25. The Meeting noted that the 8th ACBF will be held in February 2019 in Thailand.

The Meeting noted that the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Centre for the Development of Agriculture Cooperatives (ACEDAC) Board, back to back with the 21<sup>st</sup> ASWGAC Meeting, tentatively would be held tentatively in May/June 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN cooperation and cordiality.